



Gelligaer Urban District Council.



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# REPORT

OF THE

**Medical Officer of Health**

and

**Senior Public Health Inspector**

**For the year 1962**



Gelligaer Urban District Council.



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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT  
COUNCIL OFFICES  
HENGOED.

Telephone : Hengoed 2241/2242.

To the Chairman and Members of the  
GELLIGAER URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Report for the Year 1962.

The report includes information suggested in Circular 1/63 (Wales) of the Welsh Board of Health.

The estimated Population in 1962 was 34,990, an increase of 200.

As judged by the Table of Vital Statistics, the health of the Community has not varied greatly, but some disquiet is created when considering the number of deaths due to Coronary Disease.

Infant Deaths were fewer in 1962 than in any year. Such news is always received with welcome and relief ; welcome because maternal care is not only great, but also becoming more knowledgeable, and the skill and diligence of medical and nursing personnel in the area are worthy of praise ; the news is received with relief, because Infant Mortality poses many problems, all of which are not solved.

Once more, Infectious Diseases were few. Fifteen new cases of Tuberculosis were notified during the year. In the five years from 1956 to 1960, the number of new cases each year was thirty. In 1961, the number was nineteen, and now in 1962 it is fifteen. It is probably true to say that if everybody visited Mass Radiography - then I would be writing of Tuberculosis as I have written for some years of Diphtheria - " There were no cases in the year under review".

Deaths from Heart and Circulatory Diseases, and Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System numbered 207 in the year. Coronary Disease accounted for eighty deaths - twenty nine more than in 1961.





In the section on Housing, it is seen that substantial progress was again made during 1962. Two hundred and sixty-six houses were built by the Authority, and ten were under construction. The Slum Clearance project at Pontlloftyn is moving but slowly, but it must be remembered that 167 new dwellings have been provided by the Authority at Pontlloftyn. The number of applicants for Council Houses is still large.

Senior Public Health Inspector Thomas, in his report, tells of 500 houses inspected, 70% of which have no bath.

In the report on Public Water Supplies ( kindly supplied by Mr. James, the Engineer to the Rhymney Valley Water Board), it is seen that supplies were satisfactory in quantity and quality. The soaring demand for water, commented upon in my Report for 1961, posed no problem because of the poor summer, there being nearly five inches more rain in the period May to September than in the same period in 1961.

As reported in 1961, The Bedlinog trunk sewer is in the 'preparation of scheme' stage.

The Bedlinog Tip Fire is still burning. Fortunately it is not of such persistent nuisance as in years past.

The Public Health Inspectors have continued their efforts to promote the hygienic handling of food. Some concern is expressed concerning Mobile Shops, some of which are not required to have hand washing facilities fitted. It is good, and it looks good, when hand washing facilities are available.

The work on behalf of the Virus Department of the Public Health Laboratory was completed during the year. Some 600 visits were made to collect specimens, 80% of the required specimens being obtained.

During the year, all Clubs in the Area were visited because of Registration requirements. Very few substantial defects were found; such alterations or improvements as were recommended were carried out quite readily.





Following my comment on Caravans and Caravan sites in the Area, the Council gave consideration to this problem. It was decided not to establish a permanent caravan site in the area.

The Luncheon Club for folks of pensionable age, organised by the Women's Voluntary Service, has continued to give great service. The provision of a cooked meal, twice a week, for some fifty folk is a formidable task, and I am certain that the W. V. S. would welcome volunteers to help the small band of devoted workers.

At the close of the year, the deaths occurred of Alderman W. A. Hancock, J.P., and Councillor W. J. Payne. The Council recorded with gratitude an appreciation of the many years of devoted service given to public affairs by these two wise men.

I thank the Members of the Council, and the Officers for help and encouragement during the year, and my colleagues in the Health Department for loyal support.

Yours sincerely,

W. BOWEN OWEN

Medical Officer of Health



GELLIGAER URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Chairman	-	H. L. Roberts, J.P.
Vice - Chairman	-	H. V. Edwards

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

W. H. D. Bennett	F. R. Jenkins
Walter Bowen	J. H. Jones, O.St.J.
D. S. Blatchford, J.P., C.C.	R. J. Jones
E. E. Burgess	William Jones, J.P.
A. E. Carey	W. H. Lee, C.C.
W. H. Coleman	Hopkin Lewis
D. B. Cooke	D. J. E. Morgan
John Davies	W. Poyntz
Drynley Harris	G. T. Richards, J. P.
H. V. James	K. G. Turner
W. R. James	A. Williams
	Cledwen Williams
	Douglas Williams

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman	-	W. R. James
Vice-Chairman	-	Walter Bowen

W. A. Bennett  
W. A. Coleman  
D. B. Cooke  
H. V. Edwards  
H. V. James  
J. H. Jones, O.St.J.  
R. J. Jones  
W. H. Lee, C.C.  
G. T. Richards, J.P.  
H. L. Roberts, J.P.





CHIEF OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL

Clerk of the Council	-	D. W. C. Morgan, Ll.B.
Treasurer and Accountant	-	W. Hicks, F.I.M.T.A., F.S.A.A.
Engineer and Surveyor	-	W. T. Luke, B.Sc., A.M.I.C.E.
Housing Manager	-	G. L. Williams, A.R.S.H., F.V.I., L.F.B.
Omnibus Manager	-	W. H. Collins

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health	-	W. Bowen Owen, J.P., B.Sc., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
Senior Public Health Inspector	-	T. P. Thomas, A.R.S.H., Cert. Meat Inspector R.S.H.
District Public Health Inspector	-	E . G. Rawlings, A.R.S.H., Cert. Meat Inspector, R.S.H.
Rodent Officer	-	T. J. Morris
Clerical Staff	-	L. Chilton

GELLIGAER URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Population	-	34,990
Total Acreage	-	16,772
Rateable value	-	£241,177
Product of ld. rate	-	£916

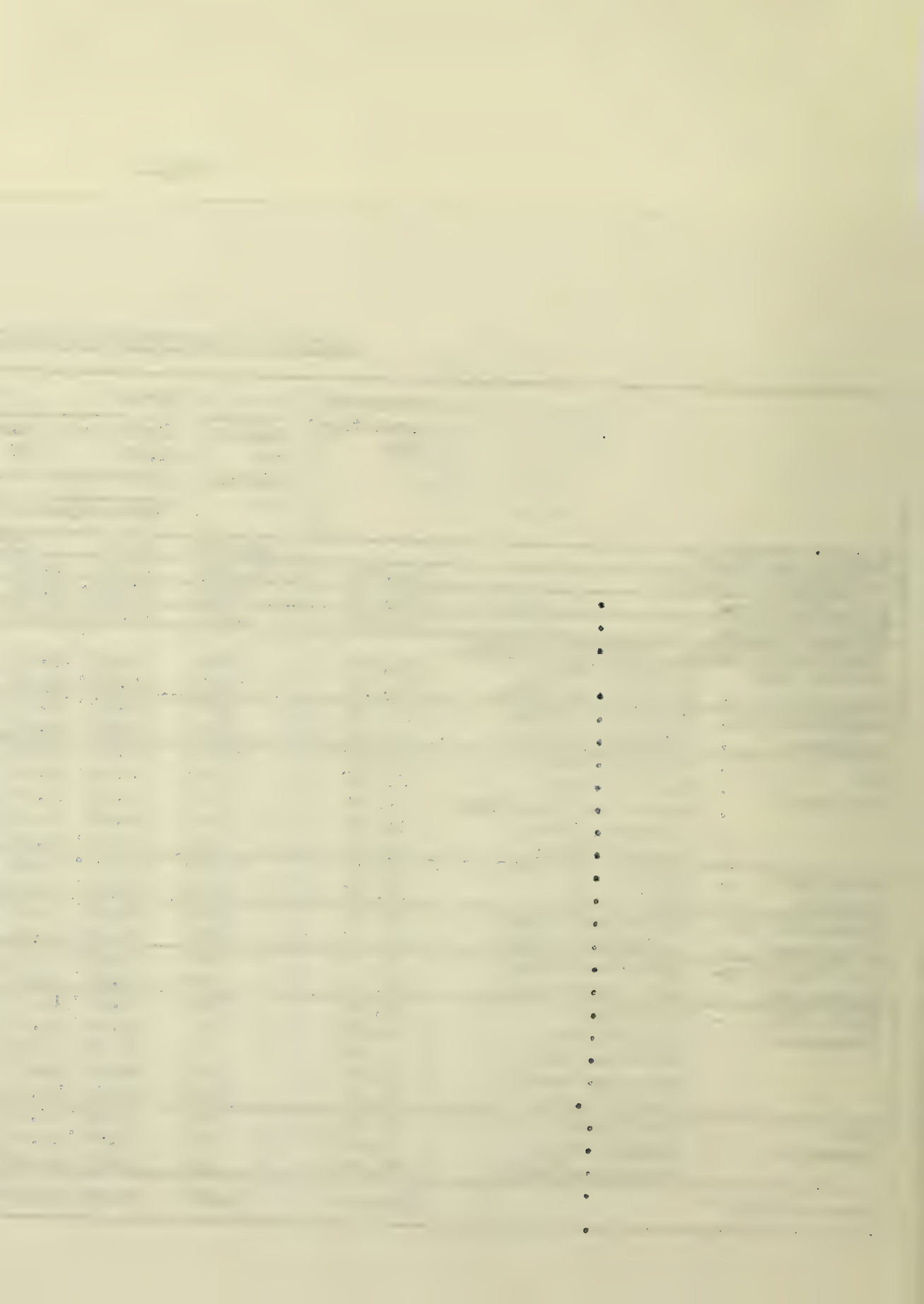




GLAMORGAN ( ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY) VITAL STATISTICS 1962

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		Estimated Population 1962	Births		Deaths		Infant Mortality		NEO NATAL MORTALITY			
			Number of Births	Rate per	Number of Deaths	Rate per	Deaths under 1 yr.	Rate per 1,000 live births	Deaths under 4 weeks	Rate per 1,000 live births		
				1,000 Population		1,000 Population						
			Crude	Adjusted	Crude	Adjusted						
England and Wales			840,557	18.0		557,446	11.9		17,978	21.4		
Administrative County		748,700	12,888	17.21	16.87	9,183	12.27	14.36	317	24.6	212	16.45
Urban Districts		524,770	9,117	17.37	17.02	6,613	12.60	14.62	229	25.12	152	16.67
Rural Districts		223,930	3,771	16.84	16.50	2,570	11.48	13.66	88	23.34	60	15.91
HEALTH DIVISIONS. CONSTITUENT DISTS.												
Aberdare and	Aberdare Urban	39,030	605	15.50	15.97	605	15.50	15.97	22	36.36	14	23.14
Mountain Ash	Mountain Ash Urban	29,520	482	16.33	16.17	365	12.36	14.96	13	26.97	9	18.67
Caerphilly and	Caerphilly Urban	36,230	727	20.07	19.07	412	11.37	14.89	15	20.63	9	12.38
Gelligaer	Gelligaer Urban	34,990	688	19.66	20.25	423	12.09	15.23	15	21.80	7	10.17
Bridgend Urban		15,110	258	17.07	15.88	185	12.24	13.46	4	15.50	4	15.50
Mid Glamorgan	Maesteg Urban	21,710	396	18.24	18.24	249	11.47	14.45	7	17.68	5	12.63
	Ogmore and Garw Urban	21,050	354	16.82	16.82	239	11.35	13.73	13	36.72	8	22.60
	Porthcawl Urban	11,130	189	16.98	16.30	169	15.18	14.72	3	15.87	1	5.29
	Penybont Rural	42,360	821	19.38	19.38	520	12.28	13.14	24	29.23	16	19.49
Neath and District	Neath M. B.	30,670	477	15.55	14.46	445	14.51	16.40	12	25.16	8	16.77
	Neath Rural	40,970	637	15.55	15.24	484	11.81	15.00	17	26.69	15	23.55
Pontypridd and Llantrisant	Llantrisant Rural	27,080	499	18.43	17.69	296	10.93	13.99	17	34.07	8	16.03
	Pontypridd Urban	35,480	573	16.15	15.50	514	14.49	15.07	16	27.92	12	20.94
Port Talbot and Glyncorrgwg	Glyncorrgwg Urban	9,440	188	19.92	19.52	92	9.75	13.94	6	31.91	5	26.60
	Port Talbot M.B.	51,150	977	19.10	18.15	500	9.78	12.91	20	20.47	11	11.26
South East Glamorgan	Barry M.B.	42,040	792	18.84	18.09	461	10.97	12.18	9	11.36	6	7.58
	Cardiff Rural	50,130	842	16.80	16.13	572	11.41	13.58	11	13.06	9	10.69
	Cowbridge M.B.	1,100	18	16.36	17.01	15	13.64	14.19	1	55.56	1	55.56
	Cowbridge Rural	19,760	320	16.19	16.19	151	7.64	12.15	3	9.38	2	6.25
	Penarth Urban	20,680	360	17.41	16.71	274	13.25	12.99	8	22.22	8	22.22
West Glamorgan	Gower Rural	12,810	218	17.02	17.19	139	10.85	10.52	5	22.94	4	18.35
	Llwchwr Urban	25,050	367	14.65	14.94	323	12.89	15.08	5	13.62	4	10.90
	Fentardawe Rural	30,820	434	14.08	14.22	408	13.24	14.70	11	25.35	6	13.82
Rhondda M. B.		100,390	1,666	16.60	16.27	1342	13.37	15.51	60	36.01	40	24.01





EXTRACTS FROM THE VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

Population - 34, 990

<u>Live Births</u>						<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	659	345	314
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	29	18	11
Total	...	...	...	...	...	688	363	325

Still-Births

Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	17	11	6
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
Total	...	...	...	...	...	17	11	6

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LIVE BIRTHS

1952	-	629
1953	-	664
1954	-	644
1955	-	672
1956	-	644
1957	-	667
1958	-	647
1959	-	648
1960	-	605
1961	-	634
1962	-	688

As a matter of interest, I give the following figures :-

1901	-	717
1911	-	1720
1921	-	1363
1931	-	847
1941	-	733
1951	-	631
1961	-	634





INFANTILE MORTALITYPage 8

The causes of Death in 1962 are as follows :-

AGE	Deaths Occurring at home		Death occurring in Hospital	
	No.	Cause	No.	Cause
0 - 1 day	1	Pneumonia	1	Asphyxia Neon.
1 - 2 days	-		1	Prematurity
2 - 3 days	-		1	Prematurity
3 - 4 days	-		1	Prematurity
4 - 5 days	-		-	
5 - 6 days	-		-	
6 - 7 days	-		-	
1 - 2 weeks	-		1	Prematurity
2 - 3 weeks	-		1	Cerebral haem.
3 - 4 weeks	-		-	
1 - 2 months	1	Mastoiditis	-	
2 - 3 months	1	Pneumonia	1	Fibrocystic dis.
	1	Suffocation		
3 - 4 months	1	Bronchitis	-	
4 - 5 months	-		-	
5 - 6 months	1	congenital malformation	-	
6 - 7 months	-		-	
7 - 8 months	-		1	Br. Pneumonia
8 - 9 months	-		-	
9 - 10 months	-		-	
10 - 11 months	1	Hydrocephalus	-	
11 - 12 months	-		-	
	7		8	





INFANTILE MORTALITY

		<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>
Deaths of Infants under one year	-	15	8	7
Legitimate	-	13	8	5
Illegitimate	-	2	-	2

As shown in the Table of Vital Statistics, the Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births in England and Wales in 1962 was 21.4 (21.4 in 1961)  
in the Administrative County was 24.6 (22.89 in 1961)  
in the Gelligaer Area it was 21.80 (31.55 in 1961)

Of the 15 Deaths, 7 occurred in the first month of life, 5 of these infants failing to survive one week.

There were 17 still-births during the year.

I append a Table showing the Infantile Mortality Rate in Gelligaer during the past ten years :-

1953	-	31. 63
1954	-	45. 03
1955	-	49. 11
1956	-	48. 14
1957	-	32. 98
1958	-	27. 82
1959	-	27. 78
1960	-	42. 98
1961	-	31. 55
1962	-	21. 80

The actual decrease in Infant Deaths is from 26 in 1960, to 20 in 1961, to 15 in 1962. As in previous years, a number of infants failed to survive the first four weeks of life.

The Infantile Mortality Rate of 21.80 is one of the lowest ever recorded in Gelligaer. In the past, I have commented on the large annual fluctuations in Infantile Mortality, the reason for which was not known. As 1962 is the third consecutive year showing a considerable improvement, it suggests that real improvement is being made.



DEATHSPage 10

Deaths during the year numbered 423 - Males 257 , Females 166 .

1953	...	389
1954	...	437
1955	...	449
1956	...	422
1957	...	405
1958	...	384
1959	...	390
1960	...	411
1961	...	396
1962	...	423

MATERNAL DEATHS

There were no Deaths in which pregnancy was a factor

In considering the Registrar General's Returns, there are points of interest. Following is a Table showing the number of Deaths in each of three age groups in the past ten years. In considering the age at Death, it is interesting to note how many people live beyond the allotted span of three score years and ten.

AGE AT DEATH	MALE	FEMALE
65 - 69 years	34	15
70 - 74 years	37	24
75 - 79 years	38	27
80 - 84 years	28	30
85 - 89 years	12	20
90 and over	3	5

A comparison of age at Death for the past 10 years is shown :-

	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1959</u>	<u>1960</u>	<u>1961</u>	<u>1962</u>
No. occurring before age of one year	21	29	33	31	22	18	18	26	20	15
No. occurring between one and 65 years	145	144	135	139	136	121	104	130	123	135
No. occurring upwards of 65 years	223	264	281	252	247	245	268	255	253	273





DEATHS FROM CANCERPage 11

The number of Deaths from all forms of Cancer was 68.

1953	-	54
1954	-	57
1955	-	52
1956	-	68
1957	-	43
1958	-	64
1959	-	66
1960	-	62
1961	-	62
1962	-	68

CANCER OF THE LUNG

1953	-	4	-	3 males, 1 female
1954	-	3	-	all males
1955	-	11	-	all males
1956	-	11	-	7 males, 4 females
1957	-	7	-	all males
1958	-	8	-	all males
1959	-	9	-	8 males, 1 female
1960	-	11	-	7 males, 4 females
1961	-	15	-	13 males, 2 females
1962	-	16	-	14 males, 2 females

DEATHS FROM VIOLENT CAUSES

Accidents in the home caused 4 deaths  
Accidents at work caused 4 deaths  
Motor vehicle accidents caused 2 deaths

Number of suicides - 3



CAUSES OF DEATH

	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Deaths from Heart and Circulatory Diseases ... ..	95	58	153
Deaths from Cancer ... ..	43	25	68
Deaths from Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System	20	34	54
Deaths from Measles ... ..	-	-	-
Deaths from Bronchitis ... ..	34	7	41
Deaths from Whooping Cough ... ..	-	-	-
Deaths from Diarrhoea, Gastritis and Enteritis ...	-	-	-
Deaths from Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System	7	1	8
Deaths from other forms of Tuberculosis ... ..	-	1	1
Deaths from Motor Vehicle Accidents ... ..	2	-	2
Deaths from Poliomyelitis ... ..	-	-	-
Deaths from Influenza ... ..	-	2	2
Deaths from Pneumonia ... ..	11	8	19
Deaths from other diseases of the Respiratory System	7	2	9
Deaths from Other Violent Causes ... ..	12	5	17

THUS :-

	<u>1961</u>	<u>1962</u>
Deaths from Heart and Circulatory Diseases ... ..	132	153
Deaths from Cancer ... ..	62	68
Deaths from Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System	53	54
Deaths from Bronchitis ... ..	29	41
Deaths from Violent Causes ... ..	19	17

are the chief causes of Death.

Coronary Disease is a disease which continues to be prominent. During 1962, 56 males, and 24 females died from this condition, as compared to 39 males and 12 females in 1961.





PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

AGES DISTRIBUTION

DISEASE	Total cases	0 - 1	1- 2	2- 3	3- 4	4- 5	5 - 15	15- 25	25- 45	45- 65	65- 75	75 and over
Scarlet Fever	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	7	2	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	2	-

Measles - 27

Whooping Cough - nil



SMALLPOX

During the months of January, late February, and early April, Small Pox appeared in South Wales.

The first case was that of a Pakistani who arrived at London Airport from Karachi on January 11th., travelled to Cardiff on the 13th., and was admitted to Hospital on the 15th.

On February 25th, it was confirmed that further cases had occurred in East Glamorgan Hospital, the first case, resulting in death, diagnosed retrospectively, occurring in the first week in February.

On April 6th., it was confirmed that further cases had occurred in Glanrhyd Hospital, Bridgend - the first one probably about the 17th. March - resulting in death - and again diagnosed in retrospect.

The Small Pox was of a virulent type, and caused a number of deaths. No cases occurred in Gelligaer. A large number of people from the Gelligaer Area who had visited the affected hospitals and places where known cases had been immediately before becoming ill, were regarded as contacts. All these contacts were visited daily for 19 days, and vaccinated if necessary.

In the Area, there was enormous demand for vaccination, which was carried out by the family doctors - who coped with the great influx of work most efficiently - by the County Health Staff in the Clinics, and by the medical staff at the collieries.

A number of adults, vaccinated for the first time, suffered very painful arms, or were otherwise upset by vaccination. Fortunately, no serious ill effects were found.





TUBERCULOSIS

AGE GROUPS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non- pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 4 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 9 years	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 - 14 years	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 19 years	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 - 24 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 34 years	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
35 - 44 years	1	3	-	-	1	-	-	-
45 - 54 years	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
55 - 64 years	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
65 - 69 years	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
70 and over	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-
TOTAL	10	5	-	-	7	1	-	1

INCIDENCE AND DEATHS

<u>YEAR</u>		<u>INCIDENCE</u>		<u>DEATHS</u>
1953	...	34	...	10
1954	...	54	...	4
1955	...	57	...	8
1956	...	33	...	8
1957	...	32	...	5
1958	...	30	...	1
1959	...	33	...	4
1960	...	30	...	6
1961	...	19	...	6
1962	...	15	...	9



VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

Diphtheria Immunisation

1953	-	417
1954	-	524
1955	-	474
1956	-	481
1957	-	269
1958	-	205
1959	-	299
1960	-	391
1961	-	841
1962	-	438

Smallpox Vaccination

1953	-	45
1954	-	6
1955	-	21
1956	-	5
1957	-	6
1958	-	9
1959	-	4
1960	-	5
1961	-	2
1962	-	11,646

Whooping Cough Vaccination

In 1962, 415 were immunised against Whooping Cough.

B. C. G. Vaccination

In 1962, 347 received B.C.G. vaccination





Poliomyelitis Vaccination

Dr. Anderson, the Divisional Medical Officer of the Glamorgan County Council, supplies information concerning the Caerphilly and Gelligaer Health Division : it would be a lengthy task to extract the Gelligaer figures from the total.

The vaccinations carried out in the Division, and which relate to all persons eligible, are as follows :-

No. of persons who received the second injection	- 552
No. who received the third injection	- 1,246
No. who received the fourth injection	- 270
No. who received re-inforcing oral vaccine	- 4,178

" The amount of preventive inoculation carried out by the Local Health Authority is very considerable. Apart from Smallpox vaccination, the figures reflect great credit upon the inhabitants in accepting these safeguards, and upon the local Health Authority and the Family Doctor for making the safeguards available. If a testing time comes, then the value of all this work will be revealed " - thus I commented in my Report for 1961. In 1962, the testing time came, by way of Smallpox, and the unvaccinated - in great numbers - sought vaccination. The brunt of the work of vaccinating was borne by the Family Doctors, to whom great credit is due for undertaking such a formidable task.

The Local Health Authority is now using combined vaccines, through which protection against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus is given.



HOUSING

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Mr. G. Lloyd Williams, the Council's Housing Manager, has supplied the following information :-

	PERMANENT DWELLINGS	TEMPORARY DWELLINGS
<u>BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY :-</u>		
No. of houses completed and occupied during 1962	266	
No. partly completed during 1962	10	
No. sanctioned but not commenced	-	
Total number completed and occupied since 1918	1,794	100 - now demolished
<u>BY PRIVATE ENTERPRISE, BUILDING SOCIETIES ETC.:-</u>		
No. of houses completed and occupied during 1962	4	
No. partly completed in 1962	4	
No. for which plans were passed, but which were not commenced in 1962	8	

No. of families rehoused in 1962	-	323
No. of families in which Tuberculosis was a factor	-	2
Number rehoused as a result of Closing Orders	-	5
Number rehoused from Slum Clearance Areas	-	40

Waiting list for Council Houses at 31st. December, 1962 :-

Total number of applicants	-	866
Families who are sub-tenants	-	554

Applications from Old Age Pensioners - 30



As shown by the Table, the Housing Schemes have progressed satisfactorily, 266 houses were occupied in 1962.

The Slum Clearance Scheme at Pontlottyn is proceeding but slowly, and the task of maintaining the remainder of the dwellings in the scheduled area, in a habitable condition, is not easy.

In addition, a number of dwellings on the fringe of the Clearance Area should be considered.

The 'Pre-fab.' site at Gelligaer has been cleared, and awaits development.

The waiting list for Council Houses does not diminish.

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ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Measurement of pollution was continued at Bargoed during the year :-

<u>Month</u>		<u>RAINFALL</u>		<u>TOTAL SOLIDS</u>
January	-	7. 49 ins.	-	25.28 tons
February	-	1. 54 ins.	-	11.17 tons
March	-	2. 13 ins.	-	21.98 tons
April	-	4. 74 ins.	-	22.84 tons
May	-	3. 80 ins.	-	25.37 tons
June	-	1. 11 ins.	-	6.83 tons
July	-	2. 10 ins.	-	18.41 tons
August	-	5. 76 ins.	-	8.90 tons
September	-	4. 87 ins.	-	15.44 tons
October	-	1. 24 ins.	-	10.57 tons
November	-	3. 09 ins.	-	15.97 tons
December	-	2. 68 ins.	-	14.71 tons

Total amount of dust collected per square mile :-

197 . 93 tons in 1962  
 229 . 17 tons in 1961  
 294 . 53 tons in 1960  
 361 . 56 tons in 1959

Very considerable trouble was experienced in Bargoed during the early part of the year. Residents in the Gilfach area complained bitterly, and justifiably, that the dust from the Power House was making living conditions intolerable.

In June, a deputation of residents met the Council and Officers of the National Coal Board.

The Power Station produces a large amount of dust; when a period of dry calm is followed by easterly winds, then the dust which has accumulated on the surface, and the dust from the chimneys, is concentrated on the Gilfach area.



I am indebted to Mr. W. H. James, B.Sc., A.M.I.C.E., Engineer and Manager of the Rhymney Valley Water Board, for the following report on the Public Water Supply :-

Bacteriological Analysis of Water

A total of 239 samples were taken and analysed during the year, as follows :-

SOURCE	RAW WATER			TREATED WATER		
	Satis- factory	Just above limit for satis. result.	Unsatis- factory	Satis- factory	Just above limit for satis. result	Unsatis- factory
Rhymney Bridge	2	7	239	48	-	-
Deri	11	7	30	48	-	-
Taf Fechan				46	1	-
Totals	13	14	69	142	-	-

MAJOR WORKS

A new 2 m.g. capacity reservoir at Gilfach Fargoed was commenced on the 4th. January, 1962, thus completing the works outlined in the Board's Comprehensive scheme drawn up in 1945. The tank at Pentwyn was renewed during the year and, in addition to laying service mains to new housing development, a 6" main was laid to provide a supply for factories at the new Industrial Estate, Tiryberth.

SUPPLY POSITION

Supplies were maintained satisfactorily during the year, the most difficult period being in March, 1962, following a dry February. However, it was not found necessary to apply any restrictions.

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As stated in Mr. James' report, the public water supply has been well maintained.

Two parts of the area experienced difficulties during the year. Parts of Deri suffered from dirty water due to excessive deposits of Iron and Manganese. Mr. James and I examined this problem at some length ; ultimately, it was found necessary to flush certain mains at very frequent intervals.

Bedlinog suffered a sudden complete absence of water in November for a period of two days. This was due to a fractured main. Residents collected water from a number of streams and springs in the area. I examined these springs for their bacteriological condition, and all except two were free from contamination.

At the same time, I expressed concern that the means of supplying water to areas suddenly deprived of water were not satisfactory.

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BEDLINOG TIP

In my Report for 1961, I described the work carried out in an attempt to control and contain the fire in this tip. The endeavour to prevent carbon monoxide getting into the adjoining houses was successful, but all attempts to prevent the fire spreading, and to prevent noxious smells permeating the upper part of the village failed.

In February, 1962, the Council accepted the offer of a specialist firm to treat the atmosphere above the tip with a deodorant spray, which would rid the atmosphere of the unpleasant smell. One side of the tip was ringed with a number of spray guns - which were designed to put into the atmosphere a deodorant mist, and which would come into action only when the wind wafted the smell into the village.

This project was continued until the end of January, 1963, and failed to achieve the desired effect - that is, to rid the atmosphere of the unpleasant smell.

The Council spent a great deal of money on this experiment, and the staff of the Public Works and Public Health Departments devoted a great deal of time in an effort to make the equipment work.

It is my opinion that the deodorant used had a beneficial effect, but the project failed for the following reasons :-

On the equipment side - the sprays used required very frequent and very careful setting to produce the mist which would be effective over a wide area.

The control vane which switched the sprays on and off was insensitive to very light winds, and thus the sprays were often on and off at the wrong times.

Then - the fire spread beyond the area of the sprays. It was found, too, that currents of air were travelling in varied directions on the tip, thus making the task of the sprays almost impossible.

Later in the year, the spray guns were resited, with slight benefit. In December, a very careful watch was kept to ascertain the value of the newly sited guns. It was finally decided that the number of spray guns would have to be enormously increased; the automatic control was ineffective because of variable air currents at the tip. These two items would raise the cost considerably; and then came the cold weather, and everything froze up, and the experiment was abandoned.

At present, the tip still burns - but not so fiercely. It still smells - but not so noxiously.



The Council provides a large, open air swimming pool in the park at Bargoed. Every year it is in operation from May to September. Being an open air pool, the attendance is much affected by the weather. The summer of 1962 was neither warm nor sunny, and the crowds were not attracted to the Swimming Pool.

The pool is filled from the public water supply, and also 'topped up' from the mains.

For the safety of bathers, it is necessary that adequate chlorination and a high degree of clarity of the water are always present. Both features were satisfactorily provided during the year.

In my report for 1959, I stated that it was proposed to instal an automatic Recorder of Chlorination at the pool. Owing to unforeseen delays, this was not done until 1961, and is working satisfactorily.

I noted in my Report for 1960 that developments in water purification now make available apparatus which automatically feeds into the water chlorine and other chemicals according to demand. This type of equipment is highly desirable, ensuring the purity of the water at peak loadings - this is, when the swimming pool is crowded with bathers. This equipment was not available in 1962, but will be installed in readiness for 1963.

In addition, the water heating plant has been modified by installing gas heating. This means greater comfort for the early season bathers.

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FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS

I am indebted to Dr. W. E. Thomas, County Medical Officer, for the following information :-

The following samples were taken in the Gelligaer Area by the County Sampling Officer during 1962 :-

Almonds ( ground)	-	2	Marmalade	-	2
Baby Food	-	4	Meat paste	-	2
Baking Powder	-	5	Meat products (canned)	-	4
Bi-carb. of soda	-	3	Milk	-	24
Breadcrumbs	-	2	Mustard	-	3
Butter	-	1	Orange & lemon curd	-	6
Cake Mixture etc.	-	10	Pearl barley	-	1
Cereals	-	1	Peel (mixed)	-	2
Cheese Spread	-	1	Pepper	-	2
Coffee & Chickory	-	2	Pickles	-	1
Colouring	-	2	Pudding (canned)	-	1
Condensed Milk	-	1	Salad cream	-	4
Cooking fat	-	2	Salt	-	1
Cream	-	4	Sauces	-	5
Curry Powder	-	2	Sandwich spread	-	2
Dessicated Coconut	-	1	Soft drinks	-	4
Dessert Powder	-	4	Soup ( canned)	-	6
Fish - canned	-	8	Spices	-	2
Fish - frozen	-	1	Stuffing	-	2
Flour	-	3	Suet	-	4
Fruit ( canned)	-	6	Sugar	-	3
Fruit - dried	-	1	Sweets	-	2
Fruit juice	-	3	Syrup	-	2
Glace Cherries	-	1	Table jelly	-	4
Gravy Browning	-	3	Tea	-	1
Health salts	-	1	Tonic water	-	3
Herbs	-	1	Vegetables (canned)	-	2
Ice Cream	-	1	Vegetables (dried)	-	1
Icing Sugar	-	1	Vinegar	-	6
Lard	-	1	Vitamin Tab. etc.	-	2
Margarine	-	3			



MORTUARY

The Council has continued to maintain a Mortuary.

During the year 1962 it was used on nine occasions.

This service to the community, although not excessively used, is invaluable at times of fatal accidents, or when the deceased has no home in the locality.

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For some years, the Council has mained a Lethal Chamber - a means of removing unwanted dogs, cats, and other pets, at no charge. The number of animals destroyed annually amounts to over five hundred.

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NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

No action was taken under Section 47 of the Act during 1962.

A number of borderline cases were visited and considered.

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LUNCHEON CLUB

In 1961, the Bargoed Luncheon Club was inaugurated by the Women's Voluntary Service. This Club functioned well during 1962, giving lunch to some fifty old folks twice weekly.

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FRESH SICKNESS CLAIMS MADE UPON THE MINISTRY OF NATIONAL INSURANCE  
1962



The chart for 1961 is included on the next page for comparison



FRESH SICKNESS CLAIMS MADE UPON THE MINISTRY  
OF NATIONAL INSURANCE

1961

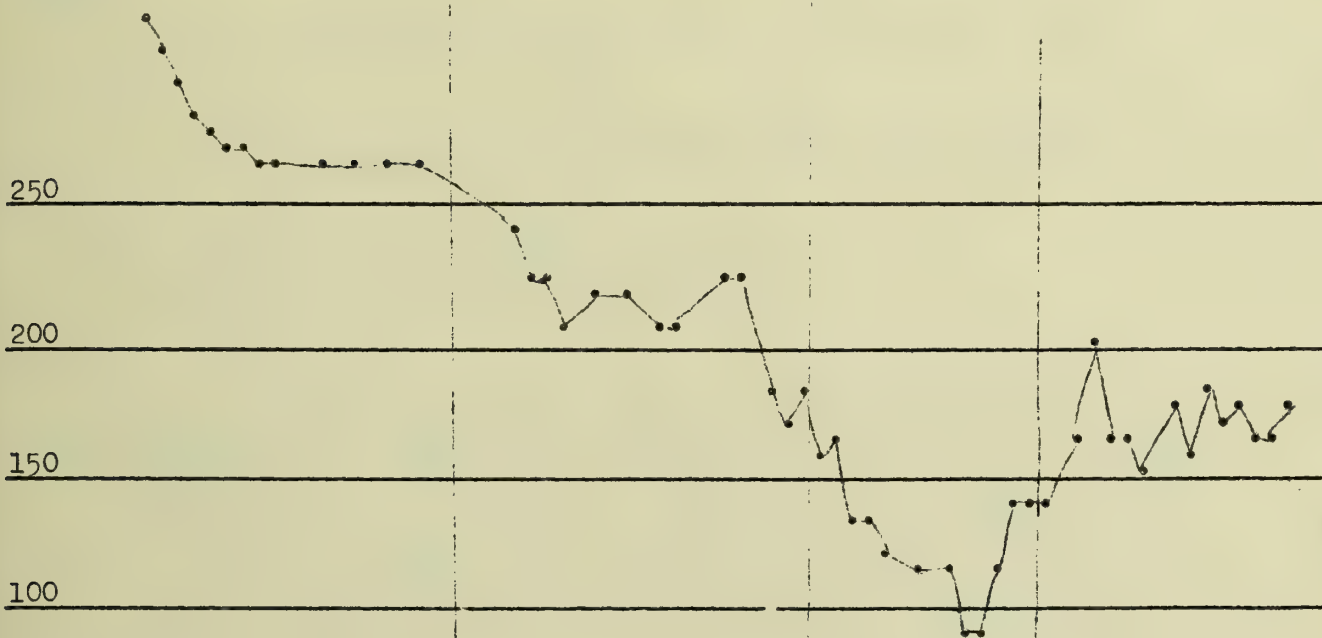
JANUARY  
TO MARCH

APRIL TO  
JUNE

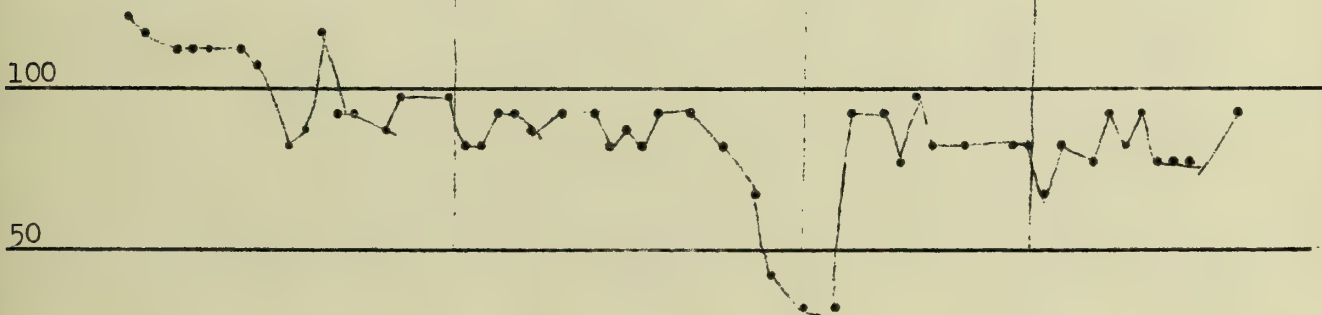
JULY TO  
SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER  
TO DECEMBER

BARGOED



YSTRAD MYNACH





SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ..... 1962

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I beg to present my Report on the day-to-day work of the Department during the year 1962.

Much of the time of the Department has again been taken up by housing problems and its attendant duties, which included :-

- a) - maintenance and conditions of repair ;
- b) - general cleanliness and improvement ;
- c) - drainage and domestic water supplies ;
- d) - overcrowding.

In connection with maintenance and general conditions of repair, there are, as is well known, some houses in the area which cannot economically be improved by the addition of modern amenities. They are constructed, for the most part, by locally quarried stone, which has weathered and now become porous. These dwelling consist mainly of two rooms on the ground floor, and two intercommunicating bedrooms. The lower floor is invariably constructed of stone flags which, with the passage of time and countless human feet, have become sunken and uneven. Roofs are sagging, and much of the internal and external woodwork is decayed beyond repair, and is in need of complete renewal. Due to the absence of rear lanes and passageways, there is usually no access to the rear apart from going through the house itself. Conditions are usually congested, with insufficient ventilation and natural lighting. Dwelling houses of this type are found mainly in the northern parts of the Urban Area, although there are isolated instances to be found in other parts of the Area. Properties of this type, if not adequately maintained, deteriorate from sub-standard into slum dwellings, and when this occurs the only solution is to cast them aside as of no further use, as one would discard an old coat that has become worn out and will stand no further patching.





The increased rents which landlords have been able to demand under the Rent Act, 1957 to keep pace with the ever increasing cost of repairs and maintenance, have been of benefit to the community by extending the life of houses, and is again reflected in the improved appearances of many houses which would otherwise be economically difficult, if not impossible, to effect.

As in previous Annual Reports, however, it must again be recorded that insufficient advantage is taken by owners of the Discretionary and Standard Grants schemes for the improvement of dwelling houses. Where advantage of these schemes is taken, it is mainly by owner/occupiers, and rarely by landlords of rented houses. In discussing the grant-aided schemes with house owners, and the benefits that may be derived therefrom, one can sense the suspicion in peoples' minds that 'there must be a catch in it somewhere', and that repayment of the money expended as a grant is ultimately required - and all this despite the fact that the Council has publicly advertised that such benefits are available for improvement of dwellings which comply with the required conditions.

I am grateful to Mr. D. W. C. Morgan, the Clerk of the Council, for supplying me with the following information on the number of grants approved by the Council during 1962 :-

Number of Standard Grants approved	-	19
Number of Discretionary Grants approved	-	28.

It is worth recording that of the 525 houses inspected by the Department during the year in the course of routine house-to-house inspection, the following conditions were revealed :-

Number of houses inspected as routine	-	525	
Number of houses without a fixed bath	-	367	(69.9 %)
Number of houses without hot water system	-	262	(49.9%)
Number of houses without flushing system	-	161	(30.7 %)
Number of houses owner/occupied	-	191	(36.4%)
Number of persons in residence	-	1,891	
Average number per house	-	3 . 6	

Some time ago, anxiety was felt that overcrowded conditions existed in some villages in the area. Small pockets of overcrowding are in existence, caused mainly by the natural growth of the family. This is revealed in the figure of 3.6 persons as the average number occupying the 525 houses visited, as compared with the estimated national average of 3.5 persons. A surprising feature, however, is the large degree of under-occupation of houses that exists - houses occupied by one, or at the most, two persons. Of the 525 houses visited, no less than 168 were occupied by not more than two persons.



The three-storey flats at Pontlottyn, in connection with the Council's slum clearance schemes for that township, were completed and occupied during the year, thus allowing further demolition and clearance to take place in the King Street, Wine Street, and Farm Road Areas. Further clearances that took place were :-

All the houses in the village of Pantywaun, comprising 21 dwellings ;  
 The Arcon Prefabricated buildings at Gelligaer - 100 units of accommodation ;  
 Individually unfit houses which included Gylla Bungalow, Cefn Hengoed ;  
 Greenmeadow Bungalow, Tiryberth ;  
 Under Chapel Houses, Penybank ;  
 Hollybush Bungalow, Pontlottyn.

VISITS AND INSPECTIONS MADE

As a result of complaints received	....	....	....	917
In connection with housing repairs	....	....	....	549

VISITS MADE UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS

As a result of notifiable Diseases	....	....	....	23
To Schools	....	....	....	65
To Piggeries and Smallholdings	....	....	....	43
To premises without main water supply	....	....	....	59
To moveable dwellings (tents, vans, sheds)	....	....	....	47
To Cinemas and places of entertainment	....	....	....	23
To Licensed premises, including Clubs	....	....	....	93
To premises conducting Offensive Trades	....	....	....	11
To Refuse Tips and Ash Tips	....	....	....	93
To rear lanes	....	....	....	179
To dirty and verminous premises	....	....	....	51

INSPECTIONS UNDER THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955  
and FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS

To Dairy Premises	....	....	....	36
To Grocery Establishments	....	....	....	181
To Cafes and Restaurants	....	....	....	97
To Factories and Bakehouses	....	....	....	89
To Butchers' Shops	....	....	....	113
To Industrial and School Canteens	....	....	....	127
To Ice Creameries	....	....	....	39
To Licensed Houses	....	....	....	93
To Fish Friers and Fish Restaurants	....	....	....	64
To Slaughterhouses	....	....	....	-



VISITS AND INSPECTIONS MADE UNDER THE HOUSING ACTS

Number of visits made - 715.

Joint visits of inspection were made with Mr. G. Lloyd Williams, the Council's Housing Manager, to Council owned houses as and when thought necessary. These visits were usually made :-

- (a)- as a result of previous routine visits, or as a result of complaints from neighbours and other persons, to houses where the required standard of cleanliness was not being maintained, or were in danger of deterioration;
- (b) - to dirty and verminous dwelling houses ; or houses infested with insect pests such as cockroaches and ants ;
- (c) -to tenants who abuse or misuse the dwellings they occupy ;
- (d) -- inspection of premises occupied by prospective Council tenants, with, where necessary, disinfection or disinfestation of premises and furniture.

HOUSING REPAIRS AND RENTS ACT 1954  
AND RENT ACT, 1957

Mr. D. W. C. Morgan has again kindly provided the following information :-

Number of applications for Certificates of Disrepair	-	4
Number of Certificates of Disrepair granted	-	4
Number of Certificates of Disrepair issued	-	4
Number of Undertakings by Owners accepted by the Council	-	nil
Number of visits made by Public Health Inspectors :-		
in connection with Certificates of Disrepair	-	23
Number of applications for Revocation of Certificates	-	6
Number of Certificates revoked by the Council	-	1
Number of applications for Certificates of Disrepair refused by the Council	-	7





HOUSING ACTS 1957 and 1961 and  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT ( MISCELLANEOUS REVISIONS)ACT, 1953

Number of Demolition Orders made on individually unfit houses	-	21
Number of Closing Orders made - involving whole of premises	-	4
involving part of premises	-	1
Number of Closing Orders revoked following undertakings by owners being accepted by the Council	-	1
Number of families rehoused by the Council as a result of Closing Orders	-	5

## PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936 - Section 92

Number of houses made fit following Informal Notices	-	212
Number of houses made fit following Formal Notices	-	49
Number of cases in which it was necessary to take Court Proceedings-		nil

## WATER SUPPLY

A piped water supply is available to the majority of houses within the Urban Area. A small number of isolated cottages and mountain farms at high altitudes are forced to rely on a domestic supply from other sources, mainly mountain streams and springs. In no case is it necessary to have to rely on deep or shallow wells for a water supply. In every instance where it is not practicable to provide a piped water supply from a known reliable source, every effort to safeguard and, if possible, improve the existing supply is made.

During the year, 8 samples of water were submitted for analysis, with the following results :-

Number of samples with a satisfactory result	-	6
Number of samples with an unsatisfactory result	-	2



MILK AND DAIRIES ACTS AND REGULATIONS 1949 - 59

Milk is produced at 52 farms in the area. The bulk of the milk is collected at or near the farm every morning, and is conveyed to the large Pasteurising Plants situated some miles away. In 1954, the Milk (Special Designation - Specified Areas) Order came into operation, which prohibits the sale of milk except that from Tuberculin Tested herds, or which has been treated by Sterilisation or Pasteurisation in this district. All Schools in the Urban Area are supplied with Pasteurised milk. Since January, 1961 the Licensing Authority, which in the case of Gelligaer is the Glamorgan County Council, has been responsible for milk sampling.

From time to time there is much agitation in some influential quarters for the replacement of milk bottles as a means of purveying milk by wax carton containers ; indeed, wax cartons are widely used in the sale of milk from Vending Machines. It will probably be only a question of time before the milk bottle, as we know it now, will disappear completely from the doorsteps, as the milk churn is now giving place to the 750 to 1,000 gallon road tanker which is used for the bulk transport of milk.

ICE CREAM ( HEAT TREATMENT ) REGULATIONS 1947 - 52

11 premises in the Area are Registered for the manufacture of ice-cream under the provisions of Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955; 141 premises are registered for the sale, or storage for the purpose of sale, of ice-cream. Since the end of the war, there has been a tremendous increase in the sale of this commodity, which is now to be found in almost every type of premises - from garages to Public Houses and Social Clubs. Pre-packing of this food in its very different forms is now almost general practice, and is almost entirely monopolised by the large manufacturers with country-wide coverage. Of recent years, colourful mobile vans have been traversing the highways and byeways selling ice-cream products. These vans are equipped with costly ice-cream making machinery, operated by the engines of the vehicles. All the necessary ingredients to ensure almost continuous sales are carried, and ice-cream is made and frozen so as to be suitable for sale, while the van is en-route.

Regular samples of ice-cream are taken throughout the area, particularly during summer months when sales reach peak point, and I give the following details of samples taken during 1962 :-

Number of samples submitted to the Laboratory for examination	-	40
Number of samples with a Satisfactory result	-	25
Number of samples with an unsatisfactory result	-	15

In cases where an unsatisfactory result is returned, repeat samples and follow-up action are taken.



Registered Food Premises

25 premises are registered under section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 for the manufacture of potted, pressed, pickled and preserved foods. Premises which manufacture sausages and ice-cream must also be registered under similar requirements.

In accordance with the modern trend of salesmanship, Supermarkets owned by large nationally known concerns have been introduced into the Area. These establishments retail every kind of household requirement, including fresh meat and poultry.

Most articles are suitably wrapped, thus reducing the risk of contamination, but at the same time this increases the responsibility of the refuse disposal services.

The Supermarket premises are hygienically constructed and designed, with large areas of refrigerated display cabinets, and non-staining, easily cleaned counters and shelving surfaces.

It is gratifying to report that food handlers generally comply with the requirements of the Food Hygiene Regulations. Occasional lapses do occur - usually due to ignorance of the Regulations, and despite the fact that all food premises were provided with a copy of the Regulations. On the whole, however, full co-operation is readily given by both the management and staff of food premises. Cases of gross carelessness still occasionally occur, and among complaints of contaminated food stuffs received by the Department were the following :-

- Cake mixture which contained a wad of chewing gum ;
- Bread containing a piece of glass ;
- A pork pie which was stale and affected internally by mould ;
- Unfit bacon - slimy and smelling offensively.

Principal food premises in the Gelligaer Area are :-

Bakehouses	-	7
Butcher's shops	-	39
Ice Cream manufacturers'	-	11
Grocery stores	-	115
Ice cream vendors	-	141
Cafes & Restaurants	-	24
Fish and chip shops	-	18

There are also a large number of front room, or parlour type, shops selling foodstuffs and numerous other articles, until, today, these one-man businesses have become Supermarkets in miniature.







Supervision of Food Supplies

All articles of food which are found, on examination, to be unfit for human consumption are disposed of by incineration, or collection by the Council's Refuse lorries for subsequent deep burial on one of the Council's Refuse Tips ; or are utilised as animal feeding stuffs. Food found to be unfit during the year 1962 included the following :-

Canned fruit and Vegetables :- 889 lbs. fruit ; 975 lbs. Tomatoes ;  
31 lbs. Beans ; 45 lbs. Peas.

Fresh Meat :- 17 lbs. Ox Liver ;  
35 lbs. Bacon ; 435 lbs. Poultry ; 10 lbs. Pork.

Canned Meat:- 376 lbs. Ham ; 24 lbs. Veal ; 201 lbs. Corned Beef ;  
42 lbs. Tongue ; 13 lbs. Pork ; 18 lbs. Luncheon Meat ;  
27 lbs. Steak.

Fresh and Canned Fish :- 7 lbs. Pilchards ; 18 lbs. Salmon ;  
6 lbs. Sardines.

Miscellaneous Foods :- 37 lbs. Soup ; 11 lbs. Milk ; 8lbs. Rice Pudding ;  
29 lbs. Cheese ; 10 lbs. Bananas.

Total weight of food found to be unfit for human consumption was :-

1 ton 9 cwts. 1 qt. 19 lbs.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACTS 1933 - 1958

There is no registered Slaughterhouse within the Gelligaer Urban Area. All fresh meat is brought in from other districts, mainly from Slaughterhouses at Maesycwmmmer, Tredegar, Brynmawr and Cardiff, deliveries being made by road transport.

10 persons are licensed by the Gelligaer Council as Slaughtermen.

During the year, 15 cottagers' pigs were slaughtered, mainly at Christmas time.



### SCHOOL CANTEENS

Regular visits were made to the 34 Schools and 20 School kitchens where meals are cooked. At some schools, no provision is made for cooking, and meals are then prepared at centrally sited kitchens and conveyed in stainless steel insulated containers.

Slow but sure progress is being made in the improvement of school canteens, and one can only assume that the delay is caused by financial restrictions. It is pleasing to be able to report, however, that work has commenced on the construction of a new canteen and dining hall to serve the Secondary Schools at Bargod .

Once again, tribute must be paid to the staffs employed in the preparation of food in the school canteens - nearly 100 persons who prepare and cook over 4,000 meals daily - for the skill and efficiency with which they perform their work, and the hygienic manner in which school kitchen premises and equipment are kept.

### LICENSED HOUSES AND CLUBS

With the coming into operation of the Licensing Act, 1961, all 19 Licensed Clubs in the Area were visited and inspected in accordance with the provisions laid down in the Act, which requires Local Authorities to certify the suitability or otherwise of Club premises. As a result of these visits and subsequent suggestions and requests to the Managing Committees, many varied improvements of both comfort and hygiene to members and customers were affected.

Visits were also made periodically to the 44 Public Houses in the area. These visits were made both during opening hours, and when closed to the public. Infringements of Regulations discovered were immediately notified by letter to the Secretary of the Brewery concerned. Among these were :-

- (a) - requiring the provision of additional and improved sanitary accommodation.  
In one instance, a completely new toilet block and additional sanitary accommodation for residential staff was provided.
- (b) - Additional sinks and hot water supply points to serveries and bars.
- (c) - Requiring the renewal or repair of fixtures and fittings.
- (d) - Requiring the provision of wash-hand basins and hot water for hand washing.
- (e) - Pointing out the need for improved artificial lighting to sanitary convenience.



OFFENSIVE TRADES

In the Area, there are two premises where Offensive Trades are carried out - one at Bargoed, and one at Ystrad Mynach. At both these premises only discarded waste metal, and old worn out clothing are collected and stored. The collection of waste meat products and bones by this type of trader has been discontinued as the small quantities collected were not easily marketed ; this side of the business has now passed over to a large commercial enterprise specialising in the processing of animal by-products, and regular collections are made several times a week. Thus, the possibility of local nuisance from either of these premises has been considerably reduced.

While discussing the disposal of waste matters and refuse generally, it is not inappropriate to mention that complaints are received almost daily at the Council Offices of illicit dumping of refuse and unwanted domestic articles on open spaces and in rear lanes all over the Area. This dumping invariably takes place during the hours of darkness, consequently it is not an easy matter to trace the offenders. The Council has expressed grave concern at this practice and have declared their determination to prosecute all offenders discovered, and in some cases this has already been done. Printed handbills appealing to householders to stop this practice and to dispose of their refuse by the proper collection services have also been distributed in and around notoriously bad spots, but I regret to say the practice still continues.

PET ANIMALS ACTS, 1937 - 1961

The sale of animals from shops is controlled by the above Acts. There are two premises in Bargoed registered for this purpose. Both premises were visited regularly during the year, and gave no cause for complaint.

FACTORIES ACTS 1937 - 61

84 factories of various kinds operate in the area ; they include those engaged in light and heavy engineering, joinery, woodwork, radio and televisions repair and assembly, building sites, etc.

No. of factories to which sections 2,3,4,5,6,7, of the Act apply	- 81
No. of factories to which section 7 only applies	- 3
Number of factory inspections made during the year	- 143.

During the year, it was necessary to serve six notices on owners or persons responsible directing attention to infringements of the Acts or Regulations :-

Requiring adequate equipment in cloakrooms used by food handlers	- 3
Requiring proper cleaning of walls and windows, and redecoration	- 2
Requiring adequate and sufficient lighting to sanitary conveniences	- 1

The requirements of all these notices were complied with within the stipulated period.







### Outworkers

There are 39 persons, mainly women and Old Age Pensioners, employed as Outworkers, as defined by section 133 of the Factories Act, 1961. The work involved is either minor alterations to clothing, or the trimming and dressing of moulded rubber articles.

### CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960

The siting and control of caravans - a difficult and growing problem - is vested in the Local Authority by the above Act. Four caravan sites have been approved by the Council, all of them owned by private individuals. The largest site accommodates 40 caravans, and the smallest one caravan. All the caravans are used as permanent dwellings. The continued growth in popularity of this type of dwelling is now country wide. Years ago it was used mainly as a seaside or country holiday home for a few months of the year, but the caravan has now become a permanent fixture, used as a home by people who cannot otherwise find living accommodation. The need for caravan dwellers to adapt themselves properly to the restricted movement forced on them by this mode of life, and to safeguard themselves and their possession from fire danger has been very forcibly emphasised on several occasions, with tragic loss of life in various parts of the country.

### RODENT AND PEST CONTROL

The work for the destruction of rodents, and the eradication of insect pests continued during the year. Below is a table of the work done :-

	<u>Inspected</u>	<u>Treated</u>	<u>Visits made</u>
Dwelling houses	494	288	1,064
Business premises	45	20	103
Refuse tips	7	31	83
Agricultural premises	123	-	123
Collieries	5	-	5
Rivers and streams	13	13	93

In May and November, the bi-annual treatment of sewers took place. In this, we have the full co-operation of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. Results obtained showed a slight improvement from that of previous years, notably at Ponttyn, where new drainage systems have been installed to replace some of the old and obsolete systems.

Disinfestation and fumigation for the presence of vermin was carried out at 8 houses - 3 of these on a rechargeable basis. This service is undertaken by the Health Department in the case of all houses, but for non-Council houses a small charge is made. Household insect pests dealt with included bugs, ants, cockroaches, and wood-boring insects.



In many cases, infestation by rats could be avoided if common sense rules were observed, for example :-

- (a) - anything on which rats could feed should be destroyed by burning. Piles of timber, builders' materials, and similar equipment should not be left undisturbed but should be periodically rummaged over in an effort to make it uncomfortable for any rats or mice that may have started breeding there ;
- (b) - Animal feeding stuffs should be properly stored in bins with tight fitting lids ;
- (c) - if the presence of rodents is suspected, even if they are not actually seen, the fact should be reported to the Public Health Department with minimum delay, so that treatment can be carried out.

#### GENERAL HYGIENE

In an effort to improve personal hygiene, and to educate the public generally, the Council during the year decided to provide free hand-washing facilities at the Public Conveniences at Bargoed. These facilities are now also available at Pontlottyn and Ystrad Mynach.

Yours faithfully,

T. P. THOMAS

Senior Public Health Inspector







